The humble PETITION OF The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of LONDON in Common Councell Aſſembled, concerning Church-Government:

Preſented to the Houſe of Peers upon Fryday the 16. of Ianuary 1645.

With the Anſwer thereunto.

Die Veneris 16. *Ian.* 1645.

ORdered by the Lords in Parliament aſſembled, That this Petition, with the Anſwer thereunto, ſhall be forthwith printed and publiſhed.

Ioh. Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.

LONDON,
Printed for *John Wright* at the Kings Head in the old Bayley. 17. Ian. 1645.

The humble

PETITION

OF

The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London in Common Council Assembled,

concerning

Church-Government:

Presented to the House of Peers upon Friday the 16. of January 1645.

With the Answer thereunto.

Ordered by the Lords in Parliament assembled, That this Petition, with the Answer thereunto, shall be forthwith printed and published.

LONDON,

Printed for John Wright at the Kings Head in the old Bayley. 17. Jan. 1645.

To the Right Honourable the LORDS now Assembled in the High Court of PARLIAMENT.

The humble Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of *London*, in Common-Councell Assembled.

Sheweth;

THat in *Novemb.* last the Petitioners made it their humble request to this honourable House, that Church-Government might be setled; and are most humbly thankfull for your favourable interpretation thereof, proceeding from the good intentions of the Common-Councell, who are resolved, according to their duty, to have a tender respect

to the Priviledges of Parliament, whereby the Liberties of the City and Kingdome are preserved: That in Pursuance [illegible] Petitions [illegible] Parliament, for the speedy setting of Church-Government within this City, and against Toleration, as by Copy of one of the said Petitions annexed appeareth.

That private Meetings, especially on the Lords Day, (of which there are at least eleven in one Parish) are multiplyed, whereby the publique Congregations, Ordinances, and godly Orthodox Ministers are very much neglected and contemned, as if they were Antichristian, and our present times were like the Primitive persecutions, or as if we were still under the Tyranny of the Prelaticall Government: and by reason of such Meetings, and the preaching of women and other ignorant persons, Superstition, Heresie, Schisme, and Profanneſſe, are much increased, Families divided, and such Blasphemies as the Petitioners tremble to thinke on, uttered, to the high dishonour of Almighty God.

That the Petitioners are informed, that divers persons have an intention to Petition this Honourable House for a Toleration of such Doctrines as are against our Covenant, under the Notion of Liberty of Conscience.

The Petitioners therefore having no power of themselves to suppresse or overcome these growing evils;

evils; Doe, according to their Covenant, reveale the same knowne to this Honourable House, and for timely prevention and removall thereof, are humbly pray that the Premisses may be taken into your most serious consideration; And that Church-Government may speedily be setled, according to our most solemne Covenant with the most High God, in such manner and forme, as to Your Wisdomes shall seeme most agreeable therennto, before wee be destroyed one by another through rents and divisions; And that no Toleration be granted, either of Popery, Prelacy, Superstition, Heresie, Schisme, Prophannesse, or of any thing contrary to sound Doctrine and the power of godlinesse; And that all private Meetings, contrary to the said Covenant (the rather in regard of the sad effects thereof) may be restrained.

And the Petitioners shall pray, &c.

MICHELL.

To

To the Right Worshipfull the Alderman and Common Counsell-men of the Ward of Farrington within at their Ward-moots.

A representation of the Humble desires of the Inhabitants of the said Ward.

THat *Church-Government may speedily be setled within the City, before we be utterly ruined with rents and divisions.*

II *That this Government may be that which is agreeable to the Word of God, and example of the best Reformed Churches, according to our solemne League and Covenant with the most High God.*

III *That no Toleration either of Popery, Prelacy, Schisme, Heresie, Superstition, Prophannesse, or any thing contrary to sound Doctrine, or the power of godlinesse may at all be yeelded unto, as being against the Word of God, and contrary to the very letter of our Covenant.*

And these our most humble and earnest desires, which we are obliged and encouraged also to make, by reason of our said Covenant, we intreat the Right Worshipfull the Alderman, and Common Counsell-men of this Ward, to represent to the right Honourable the Lord Mayor, and the Honourable Court of Common-Counsell at their first sitting, that they would make their further addresse to the Honourable Houses of Parliament, for the obtaining of these our just and necessary desires.

The

The Answer to the said Petition, pronounced by the Speaker of the House of Peeres.

THe Lords have alwaies had great experience of the care and good affections of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-Councell of the City of *London*, for which they are glad of any opportunity to expresse their great sense, and to returne their hearty thanks, and more especially upon this occasion, wherein the Common-Councell have manifested so great Zeale and Faithfulnesse to the true Worship of Almighty God, and care for the Peace and well Ordering of the City of *London*, in which the whole Kingdome is so neerly concerned; The Lords therefore upon consideration of the Petition now presented unto them, and the expressions of that worthy Alderman made unto their Lordships, have commanded mee in their names to give ye further and larger acknowledgements for your great care and endeavours to prevent

so

ſo growing a miſchiefe, giving ye this aſſurance, That as they have been very forward formerly to doe what in them lay for a [illegible] Church-Government, ſo they ſhall ſtill continue to [illegible] Worke ſo much tending to the glory of God [illegible] the ſetling of the Peace of the Kingdom, [illegible] ſelves thereunto obliged by [illegible] Covenant; [illegible] care of the Lord Mayor, and ſuch as are in Office in the City, to ſuppreſſe and prevent ſuch great Offences by you mentioned, which are ſo much to the diſhonour of God and the diſturbance of the preſent and future good Government of the City of *London*. And wherein ye ſhall finde your ſelves wanting in power, the Lords will be ready to contribute their authority for your incouragement and aſſiſtance.

FINIS.

Another Trumpet from the King, and the substance of his Majesties Letter at large, where amongst other passages which you shall find at full in the Book, his Majestie seemes to be content that the Directorie shall passe for the ease of tender consciences, with many other remarkable observations. The last newes of the brave proceedings of Sir Thomas Fairfax *his Army, and the certaintie that Plymouth is free and open, our Forces still pursuing the Enemy in the West with victorie upon victorie. With the last newes from Newark, Oxford, Belvoyr, and Chester.*

The true Informer:

CONTAINING
A perfect Collection of the Proceedings in PARLIAMENT, and true Information from the ARMIES:

For the whole Week past, ending Saturday Jan. 17. 1645.

MVNDAY. *Jan.* 12.

ON this day at a Conference between the Lords, and the House of Commons, the businesse of the Court-Martiall was taken into consideration, as also that an Order shall be passed that foure of the Quorum shall be alwayes resident in the Army; also that an Ordinance shall be passed that no notorious Malignant shall have the priviledge to weare a sword, neither in London nor any other of our Garrisons: By Gods grace I will buy a sword which shall ride upon my thigh, because I will be knowne for an honest man, and be distinguished from a Malignant.

It was this day ordered by the Commons assembled in Parliament, that this following relation concerning the defeat given to the Enemy